



783RD LATRINE-O-GRAM

VOLUME 2 MARCH 1989 SPRING ISSUE

NORTH CANTON, OHIO

BIRDS ARE SINGING, BUDS ARE BURSTING, SPRING IS HERE!

RESULTS-LOST SOUL SEARCH

Not one LOST SOUL was located since the last LATRINE-O-GRAM. We must do better!

NEWS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS

1-**CHARLES ELLIS**, 3316 Noe Way Apt. G-28, Louisville, KY 40220 (502-454-0656). Vice President and Co-Chairman for the 1989 Reunion committee. Charlie reported that he stopped at the Holiday Inn in Atlanta. He and Charlie Payne reviewed reunion plans with the Motel personnel and everything for the 1989 reunion is go-go-go! See 1989 reunion report under TOURS AND REUNION INFORMATION.

2-**HARRY FIKE**, 2817 Volquardsen Ave., Davenport, IA 52804 (319-291-2807). PX Officer. Harry reported March 6, 1989 that with the last sale of 2 Squadron Caps to Glenn Cunningham, he still has the following:

(64) 14 ounce glasses	\$3.00
(55) Coffee mugs (microwave safe-medium or dark blue)	3.50
(17) Caps (one size fits all)	7.00
(36) Squadron patches	6.00
(23) Self stick Emblems	1.00
(18) Tie Clips	3.00
(21) Stick Pins	3.00
(4) Bracelet Charm Emblems	3.00

You can order any of the items from Harry at the prices listed. The prices do not include shipping costs, so add \$2.00 to the total of your check to cover shipping costs. Please make your check payable to 783rd Bomb Squadron and mail to Harry at the above address.

3-**FRANK GOPLIN**, 1225 S. Main St., Zumbrota, MN 55992 (507-732-7168). Treasurer. Frank reported that your 1989 membership dues is due now. If you don't remember if you paid your dues. Look at the label used to mail this LATRINE-O-GRAM. If PD 1989 does not follow your last name you have not paid your 1989 dues. Send your \$15.00 check to Frank Goplen at the address listed above. Make check payable to the 783RD BOMB SQUADRON. Please mark the check (1989 dues), thanks.

4-FLOYD GREGORY, 2014 S. Anderson, Urbana, IL 61801 (217-367-7981). Squadron Historian. Floyd reported he sent the last Draft of the 783rd Bomb Squadron History to the ole Reverend Bobby Wills' daughter (she is a publisher) and is hoping to get her comments and have the History available for the Atlanta reunion.

5-MIKE (GI) MAGAZINE, 24023 East Oakland Rd., Bay Village, OH 44140 (216-871-3203). Finder of Lost Souls. Mike reports he has not had any success locating ~~the~~ LOST SOULS.

6-JIM McCLOSKEY, 114 Bygate Circle, Pittsburgh, PA 15220 (412-279-2767). President and Co-Chairman for the 1989 Reunion committee. Jim and his wife stopped at the Holiday Inn in Atlanta on their trip south in late January. Jim reported the Motel is ready and able to accommodate our reunion in September. See 1989 reunion report under TOURS AND REUNION INFORMATION.

7-ORBIN E. RUTLEDGE, 3202 Heather Lane, Denton, TX 76201 (817-387-7256) who follows up on members not responding. No report.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to:

ENGINEER-GUNNER LEROY J. CRENSHAW	JANUARY 18
CO-PILOT JOSEPH C. FEW	FEBRUARY 18
ENGINEER-GUNNER ISIDORE J. GERSTNER	FEBRUARY 27
NAVIGATOR JAMES H. KYES	MARCH 9
UPPER TURRET GUNNER ROBERT D. LAWSON	JANUARY 11
BOMBARDIER RALPH J. SMITH	MARCH 24
BALL TURRET GUNNER CURTIS A. WILKINS	FEBRUARY 7

The entire Squadron join me in sending Birthday greeting to you one and all. May you have many, many more. Happy Birthday greetings to all others not mentioned.

SICK CALL

Cleo Jackson underwent Open Heart by-pass surgery on November 18th, then back in the hospital the week ending December 17th with an infected chest incision.

Cleo's old comrades and POW buddies will remember him as the Top Turret and Ball Turret Gunner on Stan Pace's crew that was shot down August 3rd, 1944 over Friedrichshafen, Germany on his 39th mission.

All of his old comrades and buddies join me in wishing and praying for his speedy and complete recovery. We look forward to seeing you and Susanne at the Atlanta reunion in September.

Lillian Brown, wife of Squadron member Owrie V. Brown underwent neck surgery and also suffered a slight stroke last December. We send Lillian our best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

Dr. John R. Steward suffered a stroke December 9th, 1989. His wife Trudy wrote Frank Goplen saying John had made some progress, in that he is able to hobble around the house, but unfortunately has little use of his left arm. John was the co-pilot of Jim Allen's crew. One of the original crews assigned to the 783rd. They flew the Liberator known as "Pisth & Moan". We send best wishes and pray for complete recovery. We also look forward to seeing John and Trudy at the Atlanta reunion at the end of September.

TAPS

PHYLLIS ARMSTRONG BASTIN died Friday, December 9, 1988 after a long illness. Survivors included Squadron member Dr. A. J. BASTIN; two sons, Robert J. and Armand Joseph Jr.; two daughters, Mrs. Michael (Bonnie) Haney and Mrs. David (Lisa) Smith; a brother, Robert Spaine Armstrong; two sisters, Mrs. Walt (Libby) Pawley and Mary Jane Linnemeier; and six grand-children. All of the Squadron members join me in extending our deepest sympathy and condolences to Dr. Bastin and family during their bereavement.

INFO ABOUT MEMBERS

In response to the many sympathy cards and phone calls, after the passing of their daughter Marnie, Kay and Burt Andrus asked for the following note to be placed in the L-O-G:

"We were overwhelmed with the number of sympathy cards and phone calls from the Squadron after losing our daughter, Marnie. Although she was in a no win situation she never cried, "Why Me?". Kay was in her hospital room 24 hours a day for the last 6 weeks. Although the mission could not have been any tougher, there is much for which to be thankful: She is in the hands of the Lord and at Peace; her daughters, are handling their grief well, living with their cousins in Colorado Springs, and enrolled in an excellent school. Thank you all and God Bless the 783rd."

Ralph McElyea and his wife Louise first moved into their tiny cabin in the Angeles National Forest in 1974. They thought they had found the perfect place to spend their retirement. The cabin had been completely paid for and over the years they added numerous improvements. They had settled in very comfortable and called the site home. But now they may be forced to leave. Because the house sits on public land that has been designated strictly for recreational use by the Department of Agriculture.

In November, they received a notice from the U. S. Forest Service giving them 90 days from Nov. 17 to comply with a rule in the ownership permit, which states that the owner must have another address which is listed as their principle residence. If they do not comply, their ownership permit will not be renewed and they will be evicted.

You will remember Ralph as the engineer gunner on Capt. Patranek's crew that was shot down while flying his 51th mission with Lt. Williams.

The Old F/O Sam Marie started a letter writing campaign to various politicians on Ralph's behalf. If you can help, contact Sam for details.

TOURS AND REUNION INFORMATION

THE B-24 LIBERATOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

A FRIENDLY REMINDER THAT THE B-24 LIBERATOR 50TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION WILL BE HELD 17-21 MAY 1989 FORTH WORTH, TEXAS.

THE B-24 LIBERATOR CLUB

ANOTHER REMINDER. THE B-24 LIBERATOR CLUB PLANS TO OBSERVE A BIRTHDAY SALUTE TO THE B-24 LIBERATOR. THE GATHERING WILL TAKE PLACE IN SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA. OBSERVANCE IS SET FOR SEPTEMBER 20-24, 1989. IF INTERESTED CONTACT THE LIBERATOR CLUB, P.O. BOX 841, SAN DIEGO, CA 92112.

THE 783RD'S 1989 REUNION

The 1989 Reunion Co-Chairmen Jim McCloskey and Charlie Ellis, along with committee member Charlie Payne reported the final touches are being put on the 783rd's 1989 reunion. Here is their latest report!

Dates of the Reunion: September 29, 30, and October 1, 1989

Location: Holiday Inn
I-285/Powers Ferry Road
6345 Powers Ferry Road
Atlanta, GA 30339

Motel Rates: \$49.00 per night (single or double) plus 11% tax

The Icebreaker buffet is planned for Friday evening, September 29, 1989.

The Banquet dinner will take place Saturday evening, September 30, 1989.

An excellent tour is being planned for Saturday, September 30. Hopefully the Tour will take place after the Saturday morning business meeting. I'm guessing it will be a tour including the Historic Swan House and the World Famous Cyclorama.

The old F/O Sweet Sam Marie reported, that with the aid of Charlie Payne, they were able to obtain 10:00 A.M. TEE TIMES Sunday, October 1 at the Fox Creek Golf Club, Smyrna, Georgia (it is located about 15 minutes from the Motel) for the Golf Tournament. The \$30.00 price includes, green fees, 1/2 of a riding golf cart and prizes.

The Farewell buffet is set for Sunday evening, October 1, 1989. Prizes for the Golf Tournament will be awarded during the evening.

The Atlanta Airport is at least one hour away from the Motel. By leaving from the back door of the Air Terminal, you can catch the North Side Express Bus to The Windy Hill Station. Exit at the Windy Hill Station. Contact the Motel on phone # 404-955-1700 and they will arrange to pick you up at the Windy Hill Station. (This information courtesy of the Ole F/O Sam Marie.)

There are a number of Recreational Vehicle lots located through out the Atlanta area. Those of you coming to the reunion in an R/V will more than likely be able to locate one to your satisfaction. However if you have problem locating one, please contact ever loving Son of Sam, Charlie Payne. Phone #404-436-1602.

The motel has an indoor swimming pool, so don't forget your swimming suites.

Make your own reservations with the Motel by or before September 1, 1989. You can do this by telephoning the Holiday Inn on #404-955-1700. Or if you don't want to telephone your reservation, fill in the enclosed reservation card and mail it to the Holiday Inn. Be sure to place a 15 cent postage stamp in the upper right hand corner of the card. You must inform the Reservation Clerk that you are with The 783rd Bomb Squadron so you can obtain the \$49.00 rate. Also if you want to arrive before Friday, September 29th or stay later than Sunday, October 1st, be sure to inform the motel your intentions so you can obtain the \$49.00 rate.

On page -5- you will find the 783rd Bomb Squadron reservation form for the various events that are planned for the Atlanta Reunion. Fill out the form and send the form along with your check for payment of the events you wish to attend to F. A. Goplen.

783RD BOMB SQUADRON RESERVATION FORM FOR VARIOUS EVENTS AT ATLANTA REUNION

Detach, fill out the form and send the form along with your check in payment of the events you wish to attend to F. A. Goplen.

NAMES OF THOSE ATTENDING: _____

ADDRESS OF THOSE ATTENDING: _____

FRIDAY--SEPTEMBER 29
ICE BREAKER BUFFET***** _____ X \$18.00/person \$ _____
Number of persons

SATURDAY--SEPTEMBER 30
BANQUET DINNER***** _____ X \$24.00/person \$ _____
Number of persons

SUNDAY--OCTOBER 1
FAREWELL BUFFET***** _____ X \$18.00/person \$ _____
Number of persons

SUNDAY--OCTOBER 1 (10:00AM)
GOLF TOURNAMENT***** _____ X \$30.00/PLAYER \$ _____
Number of players

NAMES OF PLAYERS:

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____

SATURDAY--SEPTEMBER 30 (AFTER THE BUSINESS MEETING)
A TOUR IS BEING PLANNED OF ATLANTA. WHILE WE DO NOT
HAVE THE TOUR PACKAGE PUT TOGETHER AT THIS TIME, IT
WOULD BE GREATLY APPRECIATED IS YOU WOULD INDICATE
HOW MANY OF YOU PLAN TO TAKE THE TOUR. (_____)
HOW MANY

Please make checks payable to 783rd Bomb Squadron
Mail to: F. A. Goplen
1225 S. Main Street
Zumbrota, MN 55992

MAKE SURE HE RECEIVES YOUR RESERVATION FORM AND CHECK BY AUGUST 1, 1989.